

**OPTIMIZATION OF MERCURY REMOVAL USING PALM OIL FUEL
ASH**

NOR AKMALINA BINTI MUSTAZAR

**BACHELOR OF CHEMICAL ENGINEERING
UNIVERSITI MALAYSIA PAHANG**

OPTIMIZATION OF MERCURY REMOVAL USING PALM OIL FUEL ASH

NOR AKMALINA BINTI MUSTAZAR

Thesis is submitted in partial fulfilment of the requirements
for the award of the degree of
Bachelor of Chemical Engineering

Faculty of Chemical & Natural Resources Engineering
UNIVERSITI MALAYSIA PAHANG

JUNE 2017

SUPERVISOR'S DECLARATION

We hereby declare that we have checked this thesis and in our opinion, this thesis is adequate in terms of scope and quality for the award of the degree of Bachelor of Chemical Engineering.

Signature :
Name of main supervisor : DR. WAN MOHD HAFIZUDDIN B. WAN YUSSOF
Position : SENIOR LECTURER
Date : 20 JUNE 2017

STUDENT'S DECLARATION

I hereby declare that the work in this thesis is my own except for quotations and summaries which have been duly acknowledged. The thesis has not been accepted for any degree and is not concurrently submitted for award of other degree

Signature :

Name : NOR AKMALINA BINTI MUSTAZAR

ID Number : KA13155

Date : JUNE 2017

Dedicated to my family, and my friends.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I feel grateful to Allah S.W.T because this project has successfully completed and achieved expected result. During all my works for completing this research, I was being support by many peoples that contributing toward my understanding and problem solving. Therefore, I would like to express my appreciation and big thanks to my supervisor, Assoc. Prof Dr. Wan Mohd Hafizuddin B. Wan Yussof. I would like to thank you for your neverending support during my tenure as research student under your guidance, for giving insightful comments and suggestions of which without it, my research path would be a difficult one . Your advice on my research has been valuable. Also, I would like to thanks in advanced for Miss Imla Syafiqah binti Mohd Salleh who is the one that always helping during my difficult time especially on this project.

I would like to give my sincere appreciation for some of the fellow postgraduate students that always show their kindness and consideration regarding on schedule for using the equipment in laboratory. Last but not least, I am sincerely grateful to the staffs of chemical Engineering and Natural Resources Faculty who helped me in many aspects and giving an opportunity to use the facilities that provided in laboratory.

I am deeply thankful to everyone who had spent their time to assist me regarding to this project. Especially all of my friends who supported me in writing skills and motivate me achieved my goal. Last but not least, for my family that always gave me a lot of supports in the aspects of moral, social and financial during my degree. This project definitely will not complete without their encouragement. Unfortunately, it is not possible to list all of them in this limited space.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
SUPERVISOR’S DECLARATION	ii
STUDENT’S DECLARATION	iii
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	v
ABSTRACT	vi
ABSTRAK	vii
TABLE OF CONTENTS	viii
LIST OF TABLES	x
LIST OF FIGURES	xi
LIST OF SYMBOLS	xii
LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS	xiii
CHAPTER 1 INTRODUCTION	1
1.1 Background of the Study	1
1.2 Motivation	3
1.3 Problem Statement	4
1.4 Objectives	5
1.5 Scopes of Study	5
CHAPTER 2 LITERATURE REVIEW	6
2.1 Introduction	6
2.2 Industrial Wastewater	6
2.2.1 Characteristic of Industrial Wastewater	7
2.2.1.1 Colour	7
2.2.1.2 Temperature	7
2.2.1.3 Odour	7
2.2.2 Heavy metal discharges	8
2.3 Mercury Contamination	10
2.3.1 Impact of Mercury to Health	12
2.4 Technologies of Mercury Treatment In Wastewater	12
2.5 Activated Carbon in Biosorption Technology	16
2.6 Palm Oil Fuel Ash as Activated Carbon	17
2.6.1 Origin and Characteristics of POFA	17
2.7 Design of Experiment	18

2.7.1	Factorial Design	19
2.7.2	Optimization	19
CHAPTER 3 METHODOLOGY		20
3.1	Introduction	20
3.2	Chemicals	20
3.3	Experimental Analysis	21
3.4	Experiment Methodology	21
3.4.1	Experiment of Biosorption	21
3.4.2	Optimization of Contact Time and Agitation Speed	22
3.4.3	Validation of Experiments	22
CHAPTER 4 RESULTS AND DISCUSSION		23
4.1	Introduction	23
4.2	Optimization on Mercury Removal Efficiency	23
4.2.1	Model Fitting	25
4.2.2	ANOVA	26
4.2.3	Effect of Conditions on Mercury Removal Factor	28
4.2.3.1	Effect on contact time	30
4.2.3.2	Effect on agitation speed	30
4.3	Determination of Optimum Condition for Mercury Removal	31
4.4	Validation of Model	31
CHAPTER 5 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION		33
5.1	Conclusion	33
5.2	Recommendation	34
REFERENCES		35
Appendix		39

LIST OF TABLES

Table No.	Title	Page
Table 2.1:	List of Heavy Metals and Its Description	8
Table 2.2:	Description of the Sampling Site	9
Table 2.3:	Data of Contamination Intensity in Water Collected in Gebeng	10
Table 2.4:	Summary of treatment technologies	14
Table 4.1:	Low Level And High Level Of Parameters	24
Table 4.2:	Experimental Design and Response For Optimization.	24
Table 4.3:	Sequential model sum of squares	25
Table 4.4:	Lack of fit	26
Table 4.5:	ANOVA analysis for the optimization model	27
Table 4.6:	The best conditions were analyzed by Design Expert 7.0.0 software	31
Table 4.7:	Result for validation of model	32

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure No.	Title	Page
Figure 2.1:	Illustration on how Hg entering the environment.	11
Figure 2.2:	Fine powder of POFA applied for aqueous solution	18
Figure 2.3:	Structure of POFA	18
Figure 4.1:	Predicted vs. actual mercury removal factor colored by standard order	28
Figure 4.2:	Response surface plot of mercury removal for contact time and agitation speed	29
Figure 4.3	Interaction graph for the effects of contact time and agitation speed	29

LIST OF SYMBOLS

%	percent
°C	degree celcius
rpm	revolutions per minute
mg/L	milligram per litre
ppm	part per million
ppb	part per billion

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

AC	Activated carbon
Ag	Silver
As	Arsenic
Au	Gold
ANOVA	Analysis of Variance
Ba	Barium
BOD	Biological Oxygen Demand
CCD	Central Composite Design
DF	Degree of freedom
Cd	Cadmium
Co	Carbonous oxide
COD	Chemical Oxygen Demand
CTA	Cellulose Triacetate
Cu	Copper
Fe	Iron
HCl	Hydrochloric Acid
Hg	Mercury
Hg ¹⁺	Mercurous Mercury
Hg ²⁺	Metallic Mercury
HMS	Hexagonal Mesoporous Silica
MS	Mean Square
NaOH	Sodium Hydroxide
Ni	Nickel
NIC	Newly Industrial Country

Pb	Lead
POFA	Palm Oil Fuel Ash
RSM	Response Surface Materials
Se	Selenium
SS	Sum of Square
TFC	Thin Film Composite
TOC	Total Organic Carbon
Zn	Zinc